

SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT

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S. 0455 Signed by Governor on May 17, 2021 **Bill Number:**

Author: **Davis**

Subject: Temporary Licensure of Nurses

Senate Requestor: RFA Analyst(s): Coomer

Impact Date: September 24, 2021

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill creates an additional category of temporary licensure for graduate nurses. This bill will have no expenditure impact on the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR) as the administration of these new licenses can be managed within existing resources.

This bill will have no revenue impact on the Other Funds of LLR because no additional fee is necessary for temporary licensure.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Signed by Governor on May 17, 2021 **State Expenditure**

This bill creates an additional category of temporary licensure for graduate nurses. The bill provides for the definition of a graduate nurse as an unlicensed graduate who completes an accredited basic nursing education program, in either registered nursing or practical nursing, within the United States, its territories, or dependencies within one year of seeking licensure. Currently, the Board of Nursing (board), under the regulation of LLR, may issue a temporary license to practice nursing to an applicant for licensure or licensure by endorsement as an advanced practice registered nurse, a registered nurse, or a licensed practical nurse. A temporary license may also be issued currently to an applicant while participating in a refresher course for up to ninety days when the applicant is seeking reinstatement of a lapsed or an inactive license or licensure by endorsement.

The bill provides that an applicant for licensure as a graduate nurse must function under the supervision of a currently licensed registered nurse to be eligible for a temporary license to practice nursing, and the board may establish other requirements for the supervision and employment of graduate nurses as necessary. The bill additionally provides situations in which temporary licensure as a graduate nurse must be revoked.

LLR indicates that the board is unable to estimate the number of individuals who will seek temporary graduate licensure as a result of this bill, but the board does not currently anticipate the immediate need for additional licensing staff to process these applications. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact on LLR as the administration of these new licenses can be managed within existing resources. However, depending on the number of nursing graduates

who seek temporary graduate licensure in the future, LLR indicates that the board may need to reevaluate the need for additional licensing staff.

State Revenue

This bill creates an additional category of temporary licensure for graduate nurses. The associated fee that must be paid by an applicant for temporary licensure is not any different than the fee an applicant already pays for initial licensure. Because there is no additional fee for temporary licensure, this bill will have no revenue impact on the Other Funds of LLR.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director